VOLUME XLII, NUMBER 7

SPURIOUS EMISSIONS

JULY, 2016

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CLUB MINUTES

IRARC General Meeting July 7, 2016

The meeting began at 7:29 PM with the pledge of allegiance. Vice President Viron N4VEP led the meeting in the absence of the President, Dave KU0R, who is out of town on business. There were no visitors or guests. Larry WD5CKN reported that Ray N4LEM is at home and is getting stronger, although he still needs renal dialysis.

A motion to approve the June minutes was made and they were approved by acclamation.

Treasurer Larry KK4WDD was not present; however, the presentation contained the Treasurer's Report that shows $1275.23 in checking and 1276.87 in the equipment fund. There was a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was approved by acclamation. Viron reported that we had a nice Field Day. Technical Committee reported all repeaters are working. The 88 repeater is running in dual mode and the 37 repeater has exceptional range, reaching from Titusville to Sebastian in the north-south axis and to Orlando to the west.

Next, Larry WD5CKN, Emergency Coordinator, reported that the new ops plan is on the BEARS website as well as another document that lists suggested changes and amendments. Larry also announced he will use NBEMS (Narrow Band Emergency Messaging Software) on the next Wednesday ARES net. He will send a message using that format and will offer prizes to the first three folks who email him a copy of the message.

Following Larry's report, Greg AB4GO reported for the Red Cross and had nothing to report.

Upcoming events included the regular clubhouse gathering this Saturday, July 9, plus a QRP park event the following Saturday.

Viron called for old business and there was none.

A show of hands was called for those making an HF contact, followed by a show of hands for DX contacts. On CW contacts Armando KN4JN contacted all 13 colonies special event stations active during the week of July 4. There were no QRP contacts.

Viron then showed a presentation on our Field Day that Dave KU0R prepared, with pictures and statistics. Band conditions were awful but the food did not kill anybody and the fried bacon all got eaten. John KE0GG suggested that next field day we run a digital station.

Ernie K4RBD was recognized for becoming 90 years old on July 8.

A motion to adjourn occurred at 8:01 PM and was moved and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve N4UTQ.

Secretary

HAPPENINGS

ARRL 2016 Hurricane Preparedness Webinar July 21, 8 PM EDT

Registration is open now for the 2016 ARRL Hurricane Webinar, July 21 at 8 PM EDT. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from a panel of experts on new developments and preparations for this year's hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to November 30. Contact Mike Corey, KI1U mcorey@arrl.org

Field Day 2016

The club held Field Day activities at the club house on SR3 this year.

It was a relaxed but hot affair. Under the direction of Steve, N4UTQ, who ran the event like a Stravinsky concert, members gathered at the site at mid-morning for set up. Antennas, radios and logging computers were soon glowing. Participants operated, logged, visited, cooked, talked and generally had a good time. By the end of the event, in spite of poor propagation and limited activity , since total operations only lasted about 12 of the 24 hours allowed, the group attained a total of 135 contacts on 40m-10m in both phone and CW.

Some of the participants.

HAPPENINGS

Signal Bounced Off ISS Heard Across the Atlantic

A 2 meter signal from the UK, reflected off the structure of the International Space Station (ISS) on May 2, was heard across the Atlantic. Following 2 weeks of preparation, Tim Fern, G4LOH, in Cornwall (IO70jc), and Roger Sturtevant, VE1SKY, in Nova Scotia (FN74iu) attempted a FSK441 contact.

Both stations aimed at the calculated grid HO11nl for a 144.175 MHz contact attempt with a mutual window of less than 1 minute. VE1SKY was able to copy G4LOH at a distance of

4441 kilometers (approximately 2753 miles). This was the first signal received via ISS bounce from Europe to North America, and the first *intentional* signal heard via ISS reflection in any direction across the North or South Atlantic.

While two-way communication did not happen, the reception is being verified as a possible DX record for satellite reflection.

Later in May, Fern, operating as GK4LOH and transmitting in CW, was received twice in the much-closer GN37 grid by VO1HP at VO1FN in Newfoundland.

In 2014, RSGB VHF Manager

John Regnault, G4SWX, received a 2 meter signal from VC1T, where a team was trying to win the Brendan Trophy for the first transatlantic contact on 144 MHz. Upon investigation, it was determined that the VC1T FSK441 signal that G4SWX heard also had bounced off the ISS rather than via terrestrial propagation and would not qualify for the Brendan Trophy, offered by the Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS).The Brendan Trophy will recognize the first "traditional mode" two-way contact (ie, SSB or CW) capable of being copied without machine assistance.

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All About Baluns" is the topic of the newest (June 2) episode of the "ARRL The Doctor is In" podcast. Listen...and learn!

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Stub - a sized piece of transmission line with only one end attached to a feed line. The other end is usually left open, or shorted. By using a stub's ability to transform impedance, it is possible to construct filters that present a high or low impedance to signals at particular design frequencies. Stubs of transmission line can be attached using "T" connectors. Typically, a shorted stub for a particular frequency is used to eliminate even-numbered harmonics of that frequency. Stubs can be used at the output of transmitters or amplifiers, where conventional tuned networks may be less practical due to transmit power levels. For more information on stubs, see K9YC's document on Coax and Stubs, the ARRL Antenna Book,

ON THE AIR

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI. Members of Radio Club Dominicano will be QRV as HI8RCD from June 12 to July 12 in celebration of the club's 90th anniversary. Activity will be on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using all modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

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Monitor Pre-Planned Hurricane Emergency, Disaster Frequencies

On HF, monitor the activity of the venerable Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz. The Net is a

group of amateur operators, trained and organized to provide essential communications support to the National Hurricane Center. Net members are dispersed throughout North America, the Caribbean, and Central America for communications coverage from storm-affected areas to the forecasters at the NHC.

Reports are relayed from the field to the National Hurricane Center amateur station WX4NHC. The primary mission of the Hurricane Watch Net is to disseminate tropical cyclone advisory information and collect observed or measured

weather data from amateurs in the storm affected area as well as any post -storm damage, and convey that information appropriately. The Hurricane Watch Net activates whenever a hurricane is within 300 miles of expected landfall. When activated, the net runs on 14.325 MHz during the day and 7.268 MHz at night.

The VoIP SKYWARN/Hurricane Net combines both the Echolink and IRLP linked repeater networks for handling critical wide area communications during major severe weather

events. The weekly VoIP SKYWARN/Hurricane Preparation Net meets every Saturday evening at 0000 UTC Sunday. Use the EchoLink *WX-TALK* Conference server Node #:7203, which is integrated with IRLP Reflector 9219.

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The Reverse Beacon Network

The RBN works by scanning the bands looking for stations transmitting "CQ-like" messages. To get spotted, it's key to have your CQ message be a format that the RBN network will recognize. A message like "CQ TEST N9ADG" is one format that can work, with two caveats: All parts of the message should be sent at a consistent speed, with proper spacing between elements, and the message should be sent twice, although a recent test showed that I was able to get spotted by sending my call just once. If your favorite CQ message isn't one that is compatible with RBN, you might want to have an additional RBN-friendly message that you send periodically. To see stations spotting you in real time, try the URL http://www.reversebeacon.net/dxsd1/dxsd1.php?

Q Signals by Armando Delgado, KN4JN

The Q code is a standardized collection of three-letter message encodings, also known as a brevity code, all of which start with the letter "Q", initially developed by the British for commercial radiotelegraph communications, particularly maritime communications, to provide an international set of shorthand signals that were universally understood. The system was so successful that it was later adopted by other radio services, including amateur radio.

Although Q codes were created when radio used Morse code exclusively, it soon was adopted for voice transmissions, as well.

The Q signal assignation by services is as follows:

QAA to QNZ – Assigned by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

QOA to QQZ – For the Maritime Mobile Service.

QRA to QUZ – Assigned by the International Telecommunications Union Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R).

QN- - The ARRL has also developed its own codes for message handling located in this range. Even though they overlap with other signals, the ARRL determined that their exclusive use in NTS nets limits confusion.

Q Signals

Commonly Used Q Signals

A Q signal followed by "?"asks a question. A Q Signal without the "? " answers the question affirmatively, unless otherwise indicated.

QRA -- What is the name of your station?

QRG -- What is my exact frequency?

QRH -- Does my frequency vary?

QRL -- Are you busy?

QRM -- Is my transmission being interfered with?

QRN -- Are you troubled by static?

QRO -- Shall I increase transmitter power?

QRP -- Shall I decrease transmitter power?

QRQ -- Shall I send faster?

QRS -- Shall I send slower?

QRT -- Shall I stop sending?

QRU -- Have you anything for me? (Answer in negative)

QRV -- Are you ready?

QRX -- When will you call again?

QRZ -- Who is calling me?

QSA -- What is my signal strength? (1-5)

QSB -- Are my signals fading?

QSK -- Can you work break-in?

QSL -- Can you acknowledge receipt?

QSO -- Can you communicate with..... direct?

QSP -- Will you relay to ..... ?

QSX -- Will you listen for ..... on ..... ?

QSY -- Shall I change frequency?

(Answer negative)

QTC -- How many messages have you to send?

QTH -- What is your location?

QTR -- What is your time?

_____

ARRL QN Signals For CW Net Use

QNA* Answer in prearranged order.
QNB* Act as relay Between _____ and _____
QNC All net stations Copy. I have a message for all net stations.
QND* Net is Directed (controlled by net control station).
QNE* Entire net stand by.
QNF Net is Free (not controlled).
QNG Take over as net control station.
QNH Your net frequency is High.
QNI Net stations report In.*.
 I am reporting into the net. (Follow with a list or traffic or QRU).
QNJ Can you copy me?
 Can you copy _____?
QNK* Transmit message for _____ to _____
QNL Your net frequency is Low.
QNM* You are QRMing the net. Stand by.
QNN Net control station is _____
 What station has net control?
QNO Station is leaving the net.
QNP Unable to copy you. Unable to copy _____
QNQ* Move frequency to _____ and wait for _____ to finish handling traffic. Then send him traffic for _____
QNR Answer _____ and Receive traffic.
QNS* Following Stations are in the net. *(Follow with list.)
 Request list of stations in the net.

QNT I request permission to leave the net for _____ minutes.
QNU* The net has traffic for you. Stand by.
QNV* Establish contact with _____ on this frequency. If successful, move to _____ and send him traffic for _____
QNW How do I route messages for _____?
QNX You are excused from the net.* Request to be excused from the net.
QNY* Shift to another frequency (or to _____ kHz) to clear traffic with _____
QNZ Zero beat your signal with mine.

 * For use only by the Net Control Station.

" Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm."

- Winston Churchill

W1AW CW PRACTICE TRANSMISSIONS

7 PM EST Slow CW : 5-15 WPM
Mon, Wed, Fri

7 PM EST   Fast CW: 35-10 WPM
Tue, Thu

FREQUENCIES:
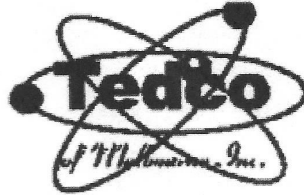1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 147.555

Editor's Note:

Send comments about the Newsletter or to contribute information or articles to the Editor's email address:

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